

October 17, 2008

Eric Herbert  
President, Nebraska GIS/LIS Association  
Sarpy County GIS  
1210 Golden Gate Drive  
Papillion, NE 68046



Dear GIS Council Members:

On behalf of the GIS/LIS Association, I am writing this letter of recommendation in support of Michael Preston's nomination as our representative on the Nebraska GIS Council.

I have known Mr. Preston for the past three years, as an active professional in the professional geospatial community. During that period I worked with him as a fellow board member and current officer of the association. As a result, I have become familiar with Mr. Preston as an active facilitator of education and cooperation within the industry. Accordingly, I am writing this because it is my sincere belief that he is eminently qualified to represent the geospatial professional community on the GIS Council.

Over the past year and one-half Mr. Preston has demonstrated to me time and again that he is dedicated to promoting educational opportunities throughout the state in accordance with the Association's mission. Not only has he been an active board member and officer in the Nebraska GIS/LIS Association, he has also served on the educational committee for the Geospatial Information Technology Association (GITA). By taking an active role in both professional organizations, Mr. Preston has been able to communicate national/international issues and experiences to the Nebraska association. This diverse experience should serve the GIS Council well.

Also, the GIS/LIS Association Board would like to recommend that Ed Kelley be nominated as an alternate representative should Mr. Preston not be able to attend. Ed Kelley has been a very active member in the Association for many years, both serving on the board and taking an active leadership role in organizing regional user groups and symposiums.

Mr. Preston and Mr. Kelley have each displayed a thorough understanding of the current issues that GIS professionals are facing today and have practical experience implementing solutions for a variety of projects in the public and private sectors. Due to my experiences working with both individuals on the GIS/LIS Association board and witnessing his professional services, it is with sincere conviction that I recommend that Mr. Michael Preston be selected as the professional geospatial association representative with Ed Kelley selected as our alternate representative.

Sincerely,

Eric Herbert

## Michael R. Preston

### GIS Manager



#### Education

B.S., Geography  
(Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio)

#### Professional Affiliations

GIS Planning Committee for the  
American Association of Airport  
Executives

Geospatial Information Technology  
Association (GITA), Midwest Chapter  
President; Conference Committee

Urban and Regional Information  
Systems Association (URISA)

Nebraska GIS/LIS,  
ESRI Business Partner

#### Software Experience

- ArcGIS 9x
- ArcInfo
- ArcView 3.x
- ArcPad
- AutoCAD 2002
- MS Office 2000
- MS Project
- Milsoft's Windmil
- GE Smallworld
- Miner & Miner's ArcFM
- Gentry Systems GenMap

#### Professional Experience

Kirkham Michael, 2007 to Present

Other Firms, 20 Years

#### Specialized Experience

Mike Preston leads Kirkham Michael's GIS Department. He has over 21 years of professional GIS experience focusing on implementing and analyzing the needs of electric utilities and local governments throughout the United States. He has a unique perspective on the implementation of GIS systems within the utilities and local governments due to his past electric utility and consulting experience. Mike has provided GIS services to cities and counties to include: creating and updating GIS systems, combining high resolution digital ortho-rectified photos using ESRI, ArcGIS and Lecia GPS equipment, and conversions from AutoCAD, using ArcGIS.

Mike is a major contributor to the educational focus of Geospatial Information Technology Association (GITA). He is the past President of the GITA Midwest Chapter, served for five years as the Education Chair, ITAG Strategic Planning member and was conference coordinator for the organization. Mike is currently the President-Elect for the Nebraska GIS/LIS Board.

#### Project Experience

- **I-80 Corridor GIS Database & Portal, Iowa Department of Transportation, Iowa.** Project Manager. Contract will result in a GIS portal site that will allow IDOT and other users, including counties and cities, access to the I-80 corridor information. This project could be the start of a larger GIS Portal for data along every major roadway in the state. This project includes collection, storage and distribution of digital information along Interstate 80 and 680 from the Mississippi to the Missouri River.
- **Omaha Public Power District Spill Prevention, Containment and Countermeasures Plans, Omaha, NE.** Project Manager. Project provides spill prevention, containment and countermeasures plans and a survey of all 110 OPPD substations. Kirkham Michael is responsible for survey, environmental and GIS services that included topographic and/or legal surveys, conversion to Microstation V8 or ESRI GIS format, data quality control and field verification. The project is slated for completion in 2008.





## Michael R. Preston

### GIS Manager

- **City of Ralston, Ralston, NE.** Project Manager. Provided ongoing technical assistance and data enhancement for the City. Involved correcting and updating data layers, including parcels, road centerlines, zoning and annotation.
- **Sarpy and Cass County Landfill, Sarpy and Cass Counties, NE.** Project Manager. Responsible for identifying a future site for a joint landfill. Gathered digital and paper data to help the counties determine the correct location for a landfill site.
- **Sarpy County Cadastral Records Conversion, Sarpy County, NE.** Project Manager. Responsible for creating a digital GIS parcel system that included lots, parcels, street centerlines (address ranged), subdivisions, blocks, hydrology, PLSS, PIN numbers and jurisdictional boundaries.
- **Papio River Mapping Project, Multiple Counties, NE. Lyman Richey.** Project Manager. GIS project consisting of the collection of multiple pieces of information along the Papio River from Fremont to Plattsmouth in Cass County. The project consisted of the collection of parcel information two miles on either side of the river. This information was put into a GIS database used by Lyman Richey to establish possible new quarries for their business. This project is ongoing with yearly updates to the system.
- **Mapping Project, Omaha, NE. BOMA.** Project Manager. Collection of data for the BOMA book, which was a creation of maps following business districts within the Omaha area (industrial, commercial and business). This book also provided vacant information on each of the areas which was displayed on the maps.
- **Omaha Rotary Trail Project, Omaha, NE. West Omaha Rotary Club.** Project Manager. Developed a geometric network of the Papio-NRD trail system via aerial interpretation, supplemented with GPS data. This GIS depicts approximately 125 miles of recreational trail with mile markers, vehicular obstructions, and trail access points stored within a geodatabase. Final electronic deliverable will be utilized by 911 personnel to enhance emergency response.
- **Convention Center Sewer As-Builts Conversion, Omaha, NE. City Of Omaha Public Works.** Project Manager. Conversion of the Convention Center sewer as-builts, which converts the current AutoCAD as-built files into the City of Omaha's ESRI Geodatabase.



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### GIS Manager

- **Firing Range Site Location Study, Eastern Nebraska.** *Eastern Nebraska Law Enforcement Consortium (ENLEC).* Project Manager for site location of firing range. Used ENLEC's GIS information to first establish areas that were not to be looked at as possible sites. These areas were buffers around schools, airports, residential areas, National/State/City Parks, cities, and highways. Major highways were then considered that were available for travel back a forth from the site, making sure that the site was no more then 40 minutes away. This project is still in progress and is moving to the second stage of site location, which is figuring out where to place the site.
- **AutoCAD Conversion, Rapids City, SD.** *Black Hills Power.* Project Manager. Conversion of numerous AutoCAD files into an electric modeled GIS system. Project was completed on time and below budget.
- **GIS Conversion, Lenoir, NC.** *Blue Ridge Electric Cooperative.* Project Manager. Conversion of over 1,500 AutoCAD files into an electric modeled GIS system. Project was completed on time and below budget, saving the utility over \$70,000 in manpower per year.